

REMARKS

The Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection.

Claims 1 and 3-11 remain pending. Claims 1 and 5 have been amended to replicate language elsewhere in each respective claim so as to provide emphatic context for certain patentable features of the invention. It is believed that no new issues are raised by the amendments because the added language is of the nature of labels providing such emphatic context (for example, Claim 1 was amended as a reminder that the database is "provided in the carrier of said public phone", and Claim 5 was amended as a reminder that the "connection information" was previously stored in the "storing" step).

As amended, Claims 1 and 5 reflect a feature found patentable in a continuation application of the present application; namely, that internet provider connection information is stored in advance as to respective carriers of a plurality of public lines, and the internet provider connection information is obtained from a plurality of public line connecting devices (USSN 10/001,981). Although the feature is so "reflected", the amendments to the present claims provide perhaps a different claim scope.

Turning to the rejections, Claims 1 and 5-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishino, U.S. 6,233,452 (Nishino) in view of Wulkan et al., U.S. 5,862,203 (Wulkan). The Applicants traverse as follows.

In the disclosed communication system of the present invention, a wireless computer can be connected to the internet through a plurality of communication lines of carriers and a plurality of providers. The connection information (such as the provider access point (AP) and service information) between the carriers and the respective providers is stored in a database in advance as to the respective carriers. When the wireless computer is connected to the internet, the connection information stored in the database is obtained from the corresponding carrier of the connectable line. Then, the most suitable carrier lines and providers are determined on the basis of the obtained connection information.

Turning to Claim 1, important features of the disclosed invention are recited as follows: the computer that has a standard wireless data communication device; a public phone having a standard wireless data communication device; the database provided in each carrier of the public phone, storing connection information from the public phone to a plurality of

internet providers; and the computer obtaining connection information from the database provided in the carrier of the public phone as to connect to public phones, to obtain best-suited carrier lines and providers, and to determine a public phone and a service provider to be connected, for connecting the computer to the internet.

Independent Claim 5 is directed to a method of connecting with an access point of the internet provider, and reflects the patentable features of the invention in the steps of storing connection information, as to the public line, of the internet provider to be connected; enabling the mobile terminal to detect a wirelessly communicable public line connecting device; and obtaining the stored connection information and line information of the internet provider from the detected public line connecting device.

The primary reference to Nishino discloses a wireless information processing terminal and method, in which AP information of an internet provider as to a plurality of wireless base stations is stored in a terminal. When the connection with a wireless base station is implemented, the base station ID (CS-ID) is extracted to search the access point information on the basis of the CS-ID and to obtain the telephone number of the nearest access point. There is no

disclosure of the terminal obtaining connection information previously stored in a database provided in the carrier of the public phone as to connected public phones to obtain the best-suited carrier lines and providers, and to determine a public phone and a service provider to be connected, for connecting the computer with the internet, as required by Claim 1.

Further, there is no disclosure in Nishino of obtaining stored connection information, as to a public line, of an internet provider to be connected, and line information of the internet provider from a detected public line connecting device, as required by Claim 5.

The secondary reference to Wulkan discloses a carrier selection database for selecting a long-distance carrier. The carrier selection database is referenced to select an optimal long-distance carrier and to determine a communication route for telephone communication via the long-distance network.

However, although Wulkan seems to disclose a carrier selection database by which an optimal carrier can be selected, Wulkan's database stores connection information of the carrier, and not the provider as required by the present claims. The difference is important and fundamental to the respective systems, because the present invention features selecting an optimal destination of communication by the

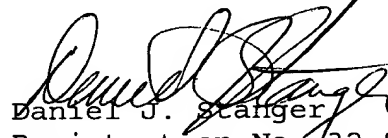
terminal (that is, the access point), whereas Wulkan seeks to improve the selection of the route from the terminal to the destination. Therefore, the present claims are patentably distinguishable over Nishino, even taken in view of the teachings of Wulkan.

Moreover, neither Nishino nor Wulkan discloses the feature of the present invention in which the computer wirelessly connects to the public phones to obtain connection information stored in the databases provided in the respective carriers of each public phone.

Claims 3 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishino in view of Wulkan and Christie et al. U.S. 535,483 (Christie). Christie, however, fails to teach the features of the claims as distinguished above from Nishino and Wulkan, and thus does not render obvious the claimed invention even when taken in combination with Nishino and Wulkan.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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